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New PCT National Phase Application Docket No. 40770-000165/US

IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

- 1. (Currently Amended) Bus bar connection (SSK)-for a gas-insulated switchboard system with at least two switchboard sections (F1, F2)-that are both filled with insulating gas (IG)-and from each of which a bus bar tube (SR1, SR2)-extends so as to be gastight, the bus bar tubes (SR1, SR2)-being connectable to one another through at least one electrical coupling element (KS), and with bellows (FB)-that can be installed between the switchboard sections (F1, F2)-and enclose the electrical connection element (KS)-so that it is gastight, characterized in that wherein one of the two bus bar tubes (SR2)-or both bus bar tubes (SR1, SR2)-can be filled with insulating gas (IG).
- (Currently Amended) Gas-insulated switchboard system, in particular a gas-insulated medium-voltage switchboard system, with at least two switchboard sections (F1, F2) that are both filled with insulating gas (IG) and from which at least one bus bar tube (SR1, SR2) extends so as to be gastight, the bus bar tubes (SR1, SR2) being connected to one another through at least one electrical coupling element-(KS), with bellows (FB) that can be installed between the switchboard sections (F1, F2) and enclose the electrical connection element-(KS) so that it is gastight, characterized in that wherein the bellows (FB) and one of the two bus bar tubes (SR2) or both the bus bar tubes (SR1, SR2) are filled with insulating gas.

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- 3. (Currently Amended) Bus bar connection (SSK) as defined in Claim 1, or a gasinsulated switchboard system as defined in Claim 2, characterized in that wherein the
 end of one of the bus bar tubes (SR2) or the ends of the two bus bar tubes (SR1, SR2)
 extend into the area that is enclosed by the bellows (FB) so that the insulating gas (IG)
 can flow into the bellows (FB) through one of the bus bar tubes (SR2) or through the
 two bus bar tubes (SR1, SR2) so as to fill the bellows (FB) with gas.
- 4. (Currently Amended) Bus bar connection (SSK) or a gas insulated switchboard system as defined in one of the preceding Claims Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the electrical connection element (KS) is a clamp that incorporates tension springs or tension washers, which is pressed against the inside walls of the bus bar tubes (SR1, SR2); and in that the clamp forms an electrically conductive connection, which is not a mechanical seal, between the bus bar tubes (SR1, SR2) so that the insulating gas (IG) can flow from one bust bar tube (SR2) into the other bus bar tube (SR1) as well as into the interior of the bellows (FB).
- 5. (Currently Amended) Bus bar connection (SSK) or gas-insulated switchboard system-as defined in one of the preceding Claims Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the electrical connection element (KS) is arranged at the end of a bus bar tube (SR2) so as to be axially displaceable.
- 6. (Currently Amended) Bus bar connection (SSK) or gas-insulated switchboard system as defined in one of the preceding Claims Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the electrical connection element (KS) forms an electrically conductive clamped connection

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between the switchboard sections (F1, F2).

- 7. (Currently Amended) Bus bar connection (SSK) or gas-insulated switchboard system as defined in one of the preceding Claims Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the bellows (FB) are of metal; and in that the bellows (FB) incorporates sealing elements (OR) and attachment elements (M) that can be installed from outside the bellows (FB), these forming a positive, force-derived seal with the outside walls of the switchboard sections (F1, F2).
- 8. (New) Gas insulated switchboard system as defined in Claim 2, wherein the end of one of the bus bar tubes or the ends of the two bus bar tubes extend into the area that is enclosed by the bellows so that the insulating gas can flow into the bellows through one of the bus bar tubes or through the two bus bar tubes so as to fill the bellows with gas.
- 9. (New) Gas-insulated switchboard system as defined in Claim 2, wherein the electrical connection element is a clamp that incorporates tension springs or tension washers, which is pressed against the inside walls of the bus bar tubes; and in that the clamp forms an electrically conductive connection, which is not a mechanical seal, between the bus bar tubes so that the insulating gas can flow from one bust bar tube into the other bus bar tube as well as into the interior of the bellows.
- 10. (New) Gas-insulated switchboard system as defined in Claim 2, wherein the electrical connection element is arranged at the end of a bus bar tube so as to be axially displaceable.

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- 11. (New) Gas-insulated switchboard system as defined in Claim 2, wherein the electrical connection element forms an electrically conductive clamped connection between the switchboard sections.
- 12. (New) Gas-insulated switchboard system as defined in Claim 2, wherein the bellows are of metal; and in that the bellows incorporates sealing elements and attachment elements that can be installed from outside the bellows, these forming a positive, forcederived seal with the outside walls of the switchboard sections.